



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **third Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: December 10, 2024

Main topic: Officer Induction for 2025 followed by Jon Suen KG6K, "P25: The Digital Radio of Public Safety"

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: In-Person and Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM, [More info at RARS.org](https://www.rars.org)

RARS In Person Gathering

The Gathering has been canceled due to it being on Christmas Eve.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are \$18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are \$12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for \$9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

<https://www.rars.org>

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

Exciter President's Message for December 2024

Goodbye 2024!

And just like that, another year goes by!

RARS has had an amazing year as demonstrated by the following:

- Exciting and fun NC QSO party club station in late February
- A successful RARSfest in early April
- The best Field Day in a long time
- Many helpful public service events
- Two in-person Technician license classes
- Many VE sessions giving license exams for free
- Regular Portable Operating Group outings
- The return of in-person meetings (and on Zoom) in September
- Interesting Gatherings every month
- Amazing web site updates all year
- New Discord server with hundreds of members
- RARS members helping at the State Fair exhibit

That shows what a busy club we have. With around 500 members, there are many ways to participate and contribute. New hams and others can look at our [Ham Tracks](#) to see all the possibilities.

Looking forward



Let's do it all again (and more)!

A couple notes on upcoming events:

- I'll be hosting the NC QSO party RARS club station again in February
- RARSfest planning is ongoing and we're looking forward to a great event
- We're still looking for a Field Day chairman

Have some ideas on new events or programs? Let us know and we can help you organize it.

73,

Fin Gold, NC4FG

President

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting



Our New Ham meeting is at 6pm, before the 7pm General Meeting. The New Ham Meeting in November built 1/4 wave 2m antennas. New hams or newly active hams should come to our New Ham meetings to learn about setting up and operating their new ham station.



People mingling before the meeting

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting

RARS President Fin Gold, NC4FG, started the meeting at 7:30. Various reports were given. See the [minutes](#) for more information about the meeting. VP Chuck Till, K4RGN, introduced the presentation, About Coax Connectors given by Bill Weinel, W4WHW. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM.

All the presentation slides are on the RARS website. [Click here.](#)



RARS President
Fin Gold, NC4FG



Chuck Littlewood, K4HF,
Reading the list of nominees for 2025



Brantley West, K4CBW
RARS Portable operating
group information.

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting, continued

President Fin Gold introducing new members



Michael Johnson KZ4LY



Brian Higgins K1BCH

President Fin Gold introducing visitors.



Hans Enders KQ4UXZ,
active in Boy Scouts



Nick, not licensed



Josh Kurland, not licensed,
interested in emergency preparedness



Don Davis, not licensed yet but
studying for a license

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting, continued



Jim Sylvant K4CPW, a ham since 1958 but not active previously, needs help with antennas



Jim Weathers N4RSE, inactive last 25 years

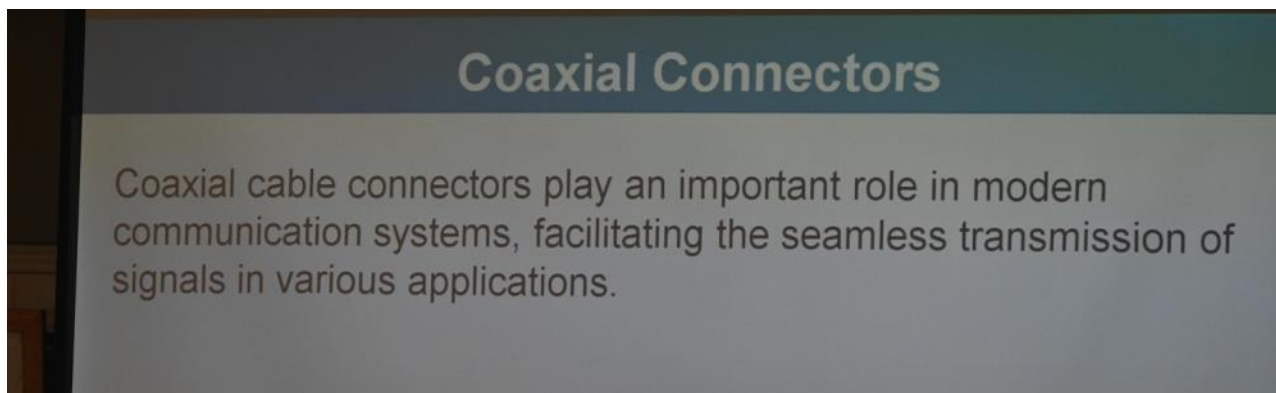


Tonight's Program:
All About Coax Connectors presented by
Bill Weinel, W4WHW



Door Prize Drawing: The winners were, left to right:
Stephen Haffly, NY4NC; Stephen Melsom, KC3GEH;
Brian Higgins, K1BCH; Josh Kurland, (not licensed);
Bill Weinel W4WHW.

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting, continued



[Microsoft PowerPoint - coaxial_connectors1-ppt.pptx](#)

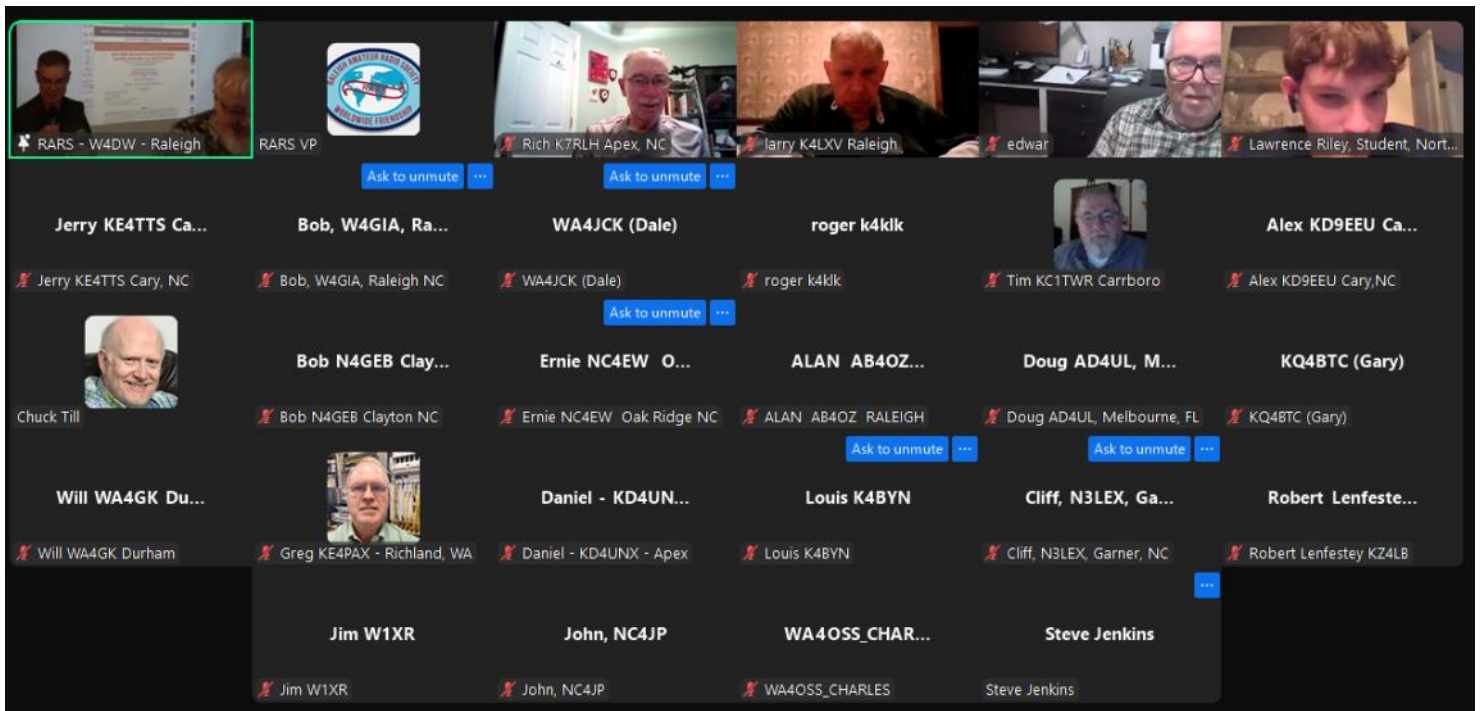
November 12, 2024 RARS meeting, continued

Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member	Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member
Bill Weinel	W4WHW	Yes	John Hollowell	K4JAH	Yes
Billy Janke	KE4VNC	No	John Honeycutt	N8ZU	Yes
Brantley West	K4CBW	Yes	Josh Kurland	NOCALL	No
Brian Higgins	K1BCH	Yes	Julie Royster	KT4JR	Yes
Bruce Sherman	KI4PAC	Yes	Kenneth A Latchum	AD4GX	Yes
Carl Linder	KM4GBE	Yes	Mark Freeze	WD4KSE	No
Chuck Littlewood	K4HF	Yes	Michael Johnson	KZ4LY	Yes
Chuck Till	K4RGN	Yes	Michael Kelley	KO4PAS	Yes
Dan Stancil	WY3O	Yes	Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR	Yes
David Cannon	KE7UJX	Yes	Nathan Barnes	K4GRU	Yes
Dennis Keith	NC4DK	Yes	Nick Baker	NOCALL	No
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Yes	Paul R. Dugdell	KO4PZA	Yes
Don Davis	NO CALL	No	Paula Weathers	NOCALL	No
Doug Wall	N3LTV	Yes	Richard Kroeger	N1FUA	Yes
Fin Gold	NC4FG	Yes	Robert Chapman	NC1X	Yes
Frank Scaraglino	KA2FWC	Yes	Robert Dugdell	KQ4ERD	Yes
Hans Enders	KQ4UXZ	No	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC	Yes
Jay Gilleece	KQ4PSK	Yes	Stephen Melsom	KC3GEH	No
Jeremy Lindsley	K2HJX	Yes	Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW	Yes
Jim Sylivant	K4CPW	No	Tom Lewis	N4TL	Yes
Jim Weathers	N4RSE	No	Tom Schwartz	NC4TS	Yes
Joe Haggerty	N4BJH	Yes			

The in-person attendance was 43

Zoom shown on next page

November 12, 2024 RARS meeting, continued



Zoom screen capture

The in-person attendance was 43 plus 22 on Zoom.

Total of 65.

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, November 26

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at [2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh](https://www.rars.org)

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.



Miscellaneous
pictures

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, November 26 pictures



If you're missing a handheld,
check with Paul KO4PZA (just
kidding!)

Pictures and
comments by
Doug Wall, N3LTV



Left to right, Stephen, NY4NC (back to us); Mike, K4MBX; Paul, N2HJK; Discussing 3D printing and Ham radio and an NC Packet node box (the black/red 3D printed box on the right).



[Laboratory 599 Discovery transceiver TX-500](#)

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, November 26

Lab-599 Discovery QRP radio



Left to right, Charles Mccomas, KY4HU; Craig Mccrary, KY4WM; Devin Hedge, KN4FVH

Charles KY4HU brought His [Lab-599 Discovery](#) QRP radio and was showing it to us. He first ran it on a dummy load with a NanoVNA to see that it was putting out a signal on digital modes. Then once we switched the antennas from the FT-857d to the Lab-599 he was able to get out on digital modes. Just my opinion of course, but I think that's the best QRP radio money can buy.

73, Devin B. Hedge, KN4FVH

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, November 26

Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member	Full Name	Call Sign	RARS Member
Bill Berzinskas	WW1H	Yes	Jake Bleck	KN4QWY	No
Billy Janke	KE4VNC	No	John Mehalej	NOCALL	No
Brantley	K4CBW	Yes	Jon Suen	KG6K	Yes
Charles Mccomas	KY4HU	Yes	Katie Farmer	KQ4TIF	Yes
Chuck Till	K4RGN	Yes	Michael Kelley	KO4PAS	Yes
Dalton Southerland	W1DGS	Yes	Mike Butler	K4MBX	Yes
Daniel Berzinskas	KQ4GOB	Yes	Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR	Yes
David Cannon	KE7UJX	Yes	Paul Allikas	N2HJK	Yes
Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Yes	Paul R. Dugdell	KO4PZA	Yes
Denny Oestreich	KO4IBL	Yes	Richard kroeger	N1FUA	Yes
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Yes	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC	Yes
Doug Wall	N3LTV	Yes	Will Jabber	WY5L	Yes
Fin Gold	NC4FG	Yes	William Gilmore	W4WDG	Yes
Garry Murray	KQ4ICK	Yes			

28 people attended the Gathering

Everyone did not sign the log.

North Carolina QSO Party

The program for the February RARS meeting will be about the 2025 NC QSO Party.

2025 Bonus Stations

In appreciation of the contributions our North Carolina amateur radio clubs make to NC QSO Party, we are putting them front and center this year. The usual spelling bees with their 1×1 calls are put aside in favor of club call signs populating the air waves. We want as many of them as possible! So, what are we doing for 2025?

Club stations, who wish to participate, are the bonus stations! Both in and out of state ops who work a participating bonus club station get 50 extra points. We are not putting any limitation to the number of clubs that are a bonus, its just we have to go through a small process to get your club approved and on the bonus list ahead of time.

Club stations operate as they normally would, nothing special is required. The objective is just to get on the air and put out our usual North Carolina hospitality. Since there will be nothing extra for gaining a sweep, no need to cover all the modes if this isn't usually done.

FT-8/4 For 2025

The committee has been wrestling with this very popular digital mode for some time and not been able to get it integrated into the event. Other state QSO parties have tried with mixed results. We are going to explore it from a different angle, as a separate event happening at the same time as NCQP. For those interested, please stay tuned for more information to follow.

All stations may participate, but only NC stations are permitted to submit their special ADI log file for an award.

Stations make regular FT-8/4 QSOs as is customary in usual operation during the time frame and date of the regular NCQP contest. For NC stations only: Submit FT-8/4 log in ADI format separately using the special form to be set up on the NCQP website specially for this purpose.

DO NOT INCLUDE FT-8/4 QSOs in the regular Cabrillo log. Making QSOs in this activity does not change the category status of a station participating in the regular contest. (i.e., A single-op/CW/Low Power station DOES NOT go into the Mixed mode if they participate in this special activity)

The main purpose of NCQP is to have fun and we want to include those that enjoy this mode. We encourage everyone to DO BOTH if they want!

For more details, go to the [NC QSO Party Web site](#) or go straight to the [2025 Rules](#) page.

73,

NC QSO Party Committee

RARS Member Birthdays

Ken	AC1BX	12/
Greg	W7GMS	12/
Dave	KQ4MBK	12/01
Charley	KE4QBW	12/01
Smitty	K4ACS	12/02
Gary	KI4KKY	12/03
Glenn	KA4GLN	12/04
Ryan	KQ4TLB	12/04
Chip	KN4LHD	12/05
Ronnie	W4RJF	12/06
Paul	KY4XJ	12/07
Ben	KN4RFT	12/07
Neil	NR1Y	12/08
Kenn	NE4Y	12/09
Bruce	KC4UQN	12/09
Virginia	NC4VA	12/09
Dan	K4LIF	12/09
Chris	KB8RUA	12/12
Roger	KS4VX	12/12
Ham	KB4BR	12/12
Frank	KA2FWC	12/12
Caleb	KQ4WOM	12/15
Tony	N4EWE	12/15
Ralph	WB4EJJ	12/15
Lloyd	W4LG	12/16
Charles	KM4AMT	12/18
Mike	KN4GUN	12/19
Michael Hollingsworth		12/20
Ronald	KC4RB	12/21
Bradley	KK4KYP	12/23

Will	WY5L	12/23
Jay	KQ4PSK	12/25
Daniel	KD4UNX	12/26
John	KO4LDW	12/27
Patrick	KQ4MAZ	12/27
Robert Wiggins		12/28
Darrell	W4CX	12/29
Tom	KQ4FKQ	12/30
John	KO4HLP	12/30
Bob	W4GIA	12/31
Dick	KD4ISC	12/31

RARS New Members

Bill Whitson, Jr	KZ4LW
Alex Kelley	KD9EEU
Jim Weathers	N4RSE

RARS nets, November 2024

30 2m nets:
362 checkins,
777 minutes duration.

4 6m nets
39 checkins,
71 minutes duration.

Julie Royster,
RARS net manager



Lots of CPUs



History wall



IBM PC



Also visited [Ham Radio Outlet](#)

During thanksgiving week, I visited my Daughter and her family near Atlanta Georgia. While I was there, we went to the [Computer Museum of America](#). It's just a little north of Atlanta. It's well worth the time to visit. If you look at everything, it will take about an hour and half. If you read everything a lot longer.

73 Tom , N4TL

RARS License Class Students Needed

RARS is holding Ham Radio Technician Training Class series on January 25, February 1, and February 8, 2024. Most students in our classes come to us from RARS member referrals. The classes will be held from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM on each day. These classes will help prepare new HAMs study to take the test for their first license. Classes will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh. The classes will be taught on three Saturday mornings. The classes will be led by experienced RARS HAMs. The classes will assist students to learn the material they will need to know to pass their exams for the entry-level amateur radio license. Instruction will be based on the *ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 5th Edition*, available from the [American Radio Relay League](#) (you don't need to be a member to buy from the ARRL) and on Amazon

73 Denny KO4IBL . RARS Education Director

[License Classes at RARS](#)

VE Testing at JARSfest 2024



There were a total of 10 new Technicians 7 Generals and 2 Extra licenses earned at the Sunday November 17th JARSfest. Thanks to all of the RARS VE's and the Five County VE's that helped and Congratulations to the new licensees!

-Doug Wall N3LTV

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS Monthly Supper, IHOP Restaurant

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (Third Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the IHOP Restaurant, 7471 Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The restaurant is on the corner of Sawmill and Six Forks Roads. After entering the restaurant look for our folks in the dining room. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew.

73, Chuck, K4HF

Six meter net

Join us Mondays at 8:30PM on 50.200 USB. Every one is invited. This is an informal net run by our vice president Chuck Till, K4RGN. After the SSB net, on the first Monday of the month we will QSY to 50.400 AM. Its interesting to hear the difference between SSB and AM.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh & Nets

146.640 And 444.525, [click for link to RARS website.](#)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS web-site click here. <https://www.rars.org/nets.php>

HAM RADIO LUNCHEON

Everyone is welcome!

Every Thursday at 11:15 AM, New York Diner,
909 McKnight Drive Knightdale.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewYorkDinerNC>

Check the latest information on the AB40Z QRZ entry. QRZ.COM.

Happy Holidays!

Yes, we are beginning to plan for 2025; **RARSfest 2025** is just 4 months away! Happening this year on April 5 in the Jim Graham Building.

We are in need for two kinds of help: the first group needs to be from RARS; the second can be anyone. Volunteers are truly what makes/breaks a hamfest.

We either missed, or were close to missing two team leaders on the day of RARSfest. We need to have a back-up person for each team lead in case they need to step out.

Here is our current Staff: https://www.rarsfest.org/meet_the_staff_2024.php

We need a back up for each of these folks, including myself! This would require participation (ideally) in short weekly meetings (7pm Thursdays) or bare minimum closely monitoring the RARSfest Discord (separate from the RARS one) extremely closely to keep abreast of developments. It would require a firm commitment to participate on 4/5, and also the evening of 4/4 for load-in. If you are interested, please email me or the specific crew chief for more details. You don't even need to be a ham...

We also will be needing an army on Friday night and Saturday. We put out requests to RARS, their families and surrounding clubs for help! Please attend General Meetings (in-person or virtually), monitor the RARS Discord, our club website and read club emails.!

You have 21 days to get on the "nice" list!

Nancy KB2TNR Torborg
RARSfest 2024 Chair
<https://www.qrz.com/db/kb2tnr>
rarsfest@rars.org
www.rarsfest.org



Swan Island DX Association
Raleigh, North Carolina at O'Malley's Pub
November 20, 2024



Around the table left front first and then clockwise.

Bert, N4CW; Nate, N4YDU; Tom, N4TL; Krish, W4VKU; Steve, K4QL;
Bill, K4CIA; Bill, K4MWB; and Denny, KO4IBL.

Krish, W4VKU, is currently on the other side of the world operating VU4A, Andaman Islands. He stated in late November and will be on to mid December 2024.

You can do log checking at <https://clublog.org/logsearch.php>

<https://www.qsl.net/sidxa/>

RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

For sale ICOM AT-500 Auto tuner.

Posted December 3rd, 2024 by: N4TL

Contact: n4tl2@yahoo.com

For sale

ICOM AT-500 Auto tuner.

Includes tuner, power cable, manual and box. Works on all bands except 20 meters. On 20 keep it on bypass. Auto band switching with IC-701, 720 and 730. Manual band switch for other radios. All bands connected to one output connector. Can be changed back to use all four.

\$200.

73 Tom N4TL

Misc Ham Radio Items

Posted December 2nd, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. Tentec 937 13.8V 7-11A Linear Power Supply, tested - \$30
2. MFJ 564 Chrome Iambic Paddle Key - \$50
3. MFJ 1026 Rx Deluxe Noise Cancel Signal Enhancer w/manual - \$110
4. MFJ 1621 Portable Antenna System w/manual - \$40

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 630-9358 Thanks, Chuck

RARS Classifieds continued

1951 ARRL HANDBOOK

Posted December 1st, 2024 by: K8SL

Contact: RKANDERSSON@HOTMAIL.COM

FOR SALE

THE ARRL RADIO AMATEUR HANDBOOK 28TH Edition Year 1951 \$25.00

Rolf/K8SL

THE ARRL HANDBOOKS

Posted December 1st, 2024 by: K8SL

Contact: RKANDERSSON@HOTMAIL.COM

FOR SALE:

The RF Amplifier Classic

The ARRL Electronics Data Book (W1CER)

The ARRL Antenna Book Handbook 23rd Edition 2015

The ARRL Antenna Book Handbook 1982

ALL TOGETHER \$50

Rolf/K8sl

MOVING AND GOING QRT

Posted November 26th, 2024 by: K8SL

Contact: 73andersson@hotmail.com

for sale:

MFJ Model 259D HF/VHF SWR Analyzer \$200

MFJ Switching PS 13.5V/50V \$75

Yaesu FTDX101MP HF/50Mhz Transceiver \$4000

Elecraft KPA1500 Amplifier \$5000

Rolf Andersson K8SL

rkandersson@hotmail.com

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS Classifieds continued

HG3 PRO loop antenna

Posted November 25th, 2024 by: K4MWB

Contact: k4mwb@arrl.net

HG3 PRO loop antenna. Covers 40-10 meters. Rated output 45w PEP. Tested but never used on-air. From an estate purchased new from PreciseRF in 2021 for \$1195. Price \$600.

FS: Icom PW-1 Solid State Amplifier

Posted November 24th, 2024 by: W4BOH

Contact: infomet@embargmail.com

Selling for friend, good shape, \$2500.

Wilson

W4BOH

Misc Ham Radio Gear

Posted November 16th, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. ICOM IC-706MarkIIIG 160M thru 440 MHz 100 Watt Transceiver. Includes the HM-103 hand Mike, DSP Option and manual. Tested, excellent condx - \$495.

2. Signal Link USB for digital modes, cables for the ICOM. With manual, tested - \$75

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 630-9358 Thanks, Chuck

Hustler 4-BTV 4 Band HF Vertical & coax connector

Posted November 9th, 2024 by: K4RLC

Contact: bconder@yahoo.com

Hustler 4-BTV 4 Band Vertical HF Fixed Station 10M 15M 20M 40M

With ABR Industries SO239 to Ring Terminals Split 4-inch WP-HST - 2213A-SO-RT-3

Needed to attach coax to vertical

New in original box from Gigaparts, never used \$220 for both. Pick up only

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

October 1, 2024

7PM on Zoom

President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. One visitor, Magnus Hedemark KI4OTK, attended the meeting. Board members attending were Fin Gold NC4FG, Chuck Till K4RGN, Tony O'Connor K1OC, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Richard Hall K7RLH, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX, Brantley West K4CBW.

Secretary Julie Royster, KT4JR, confirmed that a quorum was achieved. President Gold asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September Board meeting. Chuck Till so moved, and the motion was seconded and passed.

Old Business

Engagement committee update - Fin Gold described the [Engagement roles document](#) already posted on Discord. He asked for critiques of the draft document. Alan Pitegoff pointed out that the Technology management role description should specifically state that the repeaters are not part of this role. President Gold asked for suggestions on people to fill these roles.

Board Nominations and vote - Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, reported that he has been working with Fin Gold to complete a slate of nominations. The completed slate will be presented at the membership meeting on Tuesday October 8. A few slots remain to be filled.

Other old business:

Greg Seamster reported that Denny Oestreich returned the club laptop to him and that Greg has recovered the Office suite installed and operating. Fin requested to use the laptop for club meeting signups.

Julie Royster inquired whether the Public Information Officer position will have a different nominee for 2025. Fin Gold replied that this role will be subsumed into the new Engagement management role so the PIO position will no longer exist as such.

Fin Gold shared his screen to show content under development for the "RARS Engage interactive guide to

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society,” which will be put onto the RARS website. He requested assistance with filling in the content for different clickers in this guide. To add content to a section a member would need to log into the RARS website and follow instructions that Tony O’Connor will provide to anyone who tells him they want to edit any sections.

New Business

Hurricane Helene Update - Fin Gold, NC4FG praised Doug Wall for his involvement with the Tarheel Emergency Net, and Chuck Till mentioned that Billy Janke has also been helping to look for missing persons. Tony and Fin have been working on a statement from the club to solicit assistance from hams. Fin is in contact with hams in several states about health and welfare checks and how to get hams into the right places to support health and welfare. Jeremy Lindsley says that county emergency managers need education about how hams can help and how hams could be allowed in to assist if the emergency restrictions were changed. Fin Gold plans to determine how RARS can become more involved in emergency disaster assistance. There was a long discussion about emergency preparedness and the best response RARS can develop for emergency assistance.

[RARS Donations Policy](#) document - Chuck Till, K4RGN

Chuck took the existing policy and merged it with a policy from a different organization and has now asked for comments. He wants more input now in order to vote at the November Board meeting.

Officer’s Reports

Vice-President’s Report – Chuck Till K4RGN

The auction idea did not have enough interest, so that is cancelled. Richard Kroeger N1FUA instead will present about power supplies as the October program.

Treasurer’s Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX

RARS has several new members. A complete report is posted in Google Drive. There are still several non-renewals who will soon be dropped if they do not renew.

Secretary’s Report – Julie Royster KT4JR

Minutes are up to date.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

Committee Reports:

Public Service Director Jeremy Lindsley, K2HJX

There will be only 2 more events this year. Things have gone well.

Education Director Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL

Denny thanked the instructors at the recent technician licensing classes. Thanks to Greg for the loan of the PC. The last class was 15 students and 12 completed all classes, and 9 so far have passed the technician license test. Earlier classes had more dropouts. He hopes to have room for 20 students at the next class. He also wants to emphasize student preparation by reading materials before class starts.

RARSfest Chair Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR

The committee has started meetings. There is no information yet from the fairgrounds about prices, but we will find out in January. Food service is not fast enough, so we will see if the vendor can bring in more help OR bring in food trucks. Richard Hall has plans for improvements on testing.

Net Manager Julie Royster, KT4JR

Nets are OK although participation seems to be down a bit.

ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood, K4HF

There is a need to learn more about emergency communications.

NC QSO Party Chair Marty Young, W4MY

Marty and Fin will both present at the RARS February meeting about the 2025 QSO party.

RARS VE Coordinator Richard Hall, K7RLH

The final 2024 exam session at the gathering will be in 3 weeks unless the December gathering is held on a different day (not Christmas Eve). The RARS VE team will also sponsor a session at JARSfest on November 17. Fin requested Richard to check with JARS as to whether they are OK with RARS adding members from those who pass their licensing tests.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

RARS Webmaster

Tony O'Connor, K1OC

Tony asked for a decision about the December Gathering so he can make the appropriate change in the website.

Youth Chairman

Brantley West, K4CBW

Brantley has met with a homeschool group several times and got the kids on the air. Jenny joined RARS and has bought a radio astronomy kit (receive only) and she and some youth may want to get licensed.

At Large Director

Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ

Alan commented on the RARS zoom meeting. People at home were not able to talk to each other because they had been muted by the controller. During the meeting it was hard to hear people because they did not talk directly into the microphone. When someone asks a question, the leader must repeat the question into the microphone for it to be heard.

At Large Director

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW

At the last gathering an antenna (half wave 40 m vertical) was permanently erected with the church's permission. A 20 m dipole may be erected in the future. Coax must be connected to the new antenna. The meeting went extremely well. Tadd wants someone to take photos at the Gathering.

Adjournment

Fin Gold asked for any additional reports or comments but there were none. He then requested a motion to adjourn. Chuck Till so moved, and the motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Royster, KT4JR, RARS secretary

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes

November 12, 2024, 7:30 PM

President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded online participants of tips about Zoom. He encouraged participants to look at the new section on the RARS website titled “Become a Ham” He also asked for volunteers to assist with the Engagement effort and with the Field Day preparations, especially for a Field Day chairman. He alerted participants to new sections on the RARS website.

President Gold asked for any new members to identify themselves and he welcomed the following:

Michael Johnson KZ4LY

Brian Higgins K1BCH

Visitors present were:

Hans Enders KQ4UXZ, active in Boy Scouts

Nick, not licensed

Josh Kurland, not licensed, interested in emergency preparedness, learning new skills

Don Davis, not licensed yet but studying for a license

Jim Sylivant K4CPW, a ham since 1958 but not active previously, needs help with antennas

Jim Weathers N4RSE, inactive last 25 years

There were no new upgrades.

President Gold asked for a Quorum Call including in-person plus Zoom attendees.

Secretary Julie Royster stated that the combined attendance in person plus on Zoom was over 60 people, so there was a quorum. President Gold asked for a motion to approve the October meeting minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Reports from board members:

1. Vice President’s Report or announcements – Chuck Till, K4RGN No report
2. Secretary’s Report or announcements – Julie Royster, KT4JR The minutes are up to date.
3. Treasurer’s Report or announcements – Greg Seamster, KE4PAX There are 495 members. 66 members from last year have not yet renewed.
4. Specific Announcements or Reports from Directors

[Jump back to page 5](#)

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

Announcement from Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ JARSfest will be held Sunday November 17 in Benson

Board Meeting announcement, Fin Gold NC4FG The next board meeting will be at 7 PM Tuesday, December 3 on Zoom.

Board of Directors 2025 election - Chuck Littlewood, K4HF

At the last meeting the nominees for 2025 were announced. Tonight if there are more nominations from the floor they will be accepted. The list of nominees was read aloud. There were no nominations from the floor. Chuck asked for a motion to close the nominations and accept the slate of nominees; the motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Brantley West K4CBW announced that the next portable operating event will be held on November 16 at Carvers Creek State Park at 3-5 pm.

Door Prize Drawing:

The winners were:

Brian Higgins K1BCH

Josh Kurland (not licensed)

Stephen Melsom KC3GEH

Bill Weinel W4WHW

Stephen Haffly NY4NC.

Program: Chuck Till, K4RGN, introduced the program:

All About Coax Connectors presented by Bill Weinel W4WHW

Adjournment

Following the program President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Royster KT4JR, RARS Secretary